

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (currently amended): A polishing pad comprising a layer of a porous and compressive ~~sponge-like~~ material and an adhesive tape on which said layer is attached, said ~~sponge-like material~~ layer having hardness in the range of 20-80 duro, having pores with sizes in the range of 20-100 microns.

Claim 17 (original): The polishing pad of claim 16 wherein said layer has a thickness in the range of 300-1500 microns.